

met with several of these birds and secured an adult male which is now in his collection. I have expected to find this species here for some time, as Mr. Taverner found it at Port Huron, St. Clair County, to the north, and it has been taken in Monroe and Washenaw Counties, southeast of here. — BRADSHAW H. SWALES, *Detroit, Mich.*

**Bachman's Warbler in Leon County, Florida.** — In the October, 1904, number of 'The Auk' Mr. R. W. Williams, Jr., in a list of the birds of Leon County, Florida, says concerning Bachman's Warbler: "Only one record. I took this specimen on August 4, 1900." On March 22, 1904, while in company with Mr. Morgan Hebard of Thomasville, Georgia, I collected a male specimen of this species in a black gum swamp in the extreme northeastern section of Leon County, about four miles distant from the Georgia line. The individual taken was in company with several others which appeared to be the same species, but as the identity was not known until the specimen was in hand, no others were secured. — JAMES A. G. REHN, *Acad. Nat. Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa.*

**The First Hooded Warbler Taken in Maine.** — On the 9th of September, 1904, Mr. Samuel T. Dana, of Portland, informed me that he had seen a Hooded Warbler (*Wilsonia mitrata*) at Falmouth. As this bird had never, to my knowledge, been recorded in Maine, I asked him to secure a specimen, which he did on the 10th of September, 1904. The bird was brought to a Portland taxidermist the same day and mounted. It is now in the possession of Mr. Dana. It is a male bird, an adult, and is in perfect plumage. It was taken in the trees near a dwelling, and had been there several days, in company with other warblers. The capture of this warbler and the establishing of a new record has attracted considerable comment among local ornithologists. — W. H. BROWNSON, *Portland, Maine.*

**Breeding of the Hudsonian Chickadee (*Parus hudsonicus*) at Dover, Me.** — There has been so little said or written in relation to the breeding of this species that the record of a nest with young discovered by the writer the present season may be of some value to the working ornithologists.

During a 12 years' residence at Dover, Piscataquis County, I have occasionally during my rambles met this species, but the meetings have usually occurred during the late fall or winter seasons, and have been so infrequent as to merit a special record in my notes. Accordingly it was indeed a surprise to discover a pair engaged in the act of rearing a brood of young this season. The date was June 21. I had spent the morning botanizing in a place locally known as Sangerville bog, located due west from Dover village, the nearest portion of the bog being about a mile distant. The boundary line between the towns of Dover and Sangerville passes directly through the morass, a portion lying in either town, but the 'find' was located on the Dover side.

This bog is of the character of many others scattered throughout northern and central Maine, lying in a valley surrounded by hills of moderate height, the slopes of which are well wooded, principally with beech, birch and poplar. The swampy margin of the bog produces a belt of fir and cedar with a fair percentage of yellow birch and swamp maple, while the center of the bog consists of open areas interspersed with clumps of the hackmatack, locally known as juniper.

The nest was located in the coniferous belt at the extreme edge of the swamp, about six rods from an opening where the growth had been cut away and is now occupied as pasture. A portion of a dead cedar, nine inches in diameter and about ten feet in length, had fallen and stood leaning with a gentle incline against a birch, and in this stub about four feet from the ground the nest was located. The birds had done apparently but little excavating in solid wood; taking advantage of a decayed place in the side of the stub, had there begun their building operations. The opening at the entrance was irregular in shape, measuring about two by three inches, the cavity expanding with the descent until a depth of six inches was reached where the inside diameter was about four inches, and there the nest was placed. It contained six young birds, well covered with dark feathers, which were probably about a week out of the shell, and they filled the nest so completely it was a question how they would all be able to exist and reach maturity in these narrow quarters.

The old birds were engaged in feeding the young, and the fact of one having a woodland moth — species unknown — in its bill first led me to suspect a brood of nestlings might be near. Both birds were seen and positively identified through my glass at a distance of about 30 feet before the nest was discovered. While I was examining the nest, the bird with the moth in its bill, presumably the female, as she was the most fearless of the pair, flew to within seven or eight feet of my head and nearly on a level with it, showing the greatest anxiety and uttering piteous cries. Her call notes before I approached the nest were similar to the following syllables, *tswee-chee ya-a-a-ck* (emphasis on last syllable and with rising inflection) and were uttered at intervals of five or six seconds quite constantly. The male was not apparently as anxious as his mate, nor did I hear any note from him during my stay in the vicinity of near a half hour.

I could not remain longer to study this interesting family, and after carefully marking the spot, returned home intending to return and secure material proof of the bird's identity, but business detained me and I was not able to again visit the place until July 1, an absence of ten days, when I found the nest empty. From its appearance I had no doubt that the young brood had occupied it until within a day or so, and expected to find them near, but a search of the surrounding territory failed to discover any trace of them.

The stub containing the nest was secured and the nest-lining examined, which proved to consist mainly of vegetable down from ferns and what

appeared to be the fur of the northern hare or rabbit nicely felted together.

This record of *Parus hudsonicus* would appear to indicate a later season for nesting than that occupied by *P. atricapillus*, as I discovered a flock of the latter containing both the old and young birds, several days from the nest, feeding only a few rods from the spot where, snug in their tree, lay concealed the brood of young *hudsonicus* which appeared to be only about a week out of the shell. Accordingly *atricapillus* must have been out in the world quite ten days before *hudsonicus* would leave its nest.

During my rambles in this vicinity in the months of September and October, I found *hudsonicus* to be more abundant than during previous years, and on at least one occasion a flock containing five or six individuals was seen. May we not hope that this occasional resident bird is becoming more abundant within our borders, and that the observations of future seasons may prove it to be a permanent though rare species.—SANFORD RITCHIE, *Dover, Me.*

**Hudsonian Chickadee about Boston, Mass.**—Mr. M. C. Blake and I have four records of the Hudsonian Chickadee (*Parus hudsonicus*) in the vicinity of Boston in November, 1904, namely: Middlesex Fells, Virginia Wood, November 4; Ipswich, Castle Hill, November 12; Belmont, November 25; and Waverley, Beaver Brook Reservation, November 25. In each instance a single Hudsonian has been in the company of a flock of Blackcaps in evergreen growth. In the case of the Ipswich bird he was in closely growing young spruces and hardly above the level of the eye and was very finely seen while he gave a sweet warbling song. The Belmont bird was also well seen and gave a few notes of the warbling song. In another flock of *P. atricapillus* the distinctive calls of a second *hudsonicus* were heard, and when we reached Waverley upon the same afternoon a third *hudsonicus* was giving calls among a flock of *atricapillus*. As it has not been my good fortune in previous autumns and winters to meet with this species, it would appear that at least it is in more evidence this season in the vicinity of Boston than for the last five years.—HORACE W. WRIGHT, *Boston, Mass.*

**The Blue-gray Gnatcatcher in the Public Garden, Boston, Mass.**—In the early morning of October 22, 1904, which was clear with a light southwesterly wind, following a southeasterly gale of fifty miles an hour along the Middle Atlantic and New England coasts the previous day, I found upon entering our Public Garden in the heart of the city a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila carulea*). Immediately upon my entrance his call was heard from a neighboring beech, and being different from any call-note with which I was acquainted,—tiny, nervously given and oft-repeated,—it guided me at once to the presence of the bird. He constantly flitted from one bough to another with even more rapidity than does a kinglet and was of about kinglet size. The clear blue-gray of the entire head